

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

FEA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 529

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H PASS CODEL

PASS AGRICULTURE

FOR STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GATT

SUBJ: MTN: AGRICULTURE GROUP MEETING

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF SECRETARIAT DRAFT OF  
THE THREE AREAS (STANDARDS, TARIFFS, AND OTHER PRODUCTS)  
WHERE IT APPEARED AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED ON A WORK  
PROGRAM FOR THE AGRICULTURE GROUP. THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD  
BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH MODIFIED U.S. PROPOSAL  
PRESENTED IN FRIDAY PLENARY WHICH WILL BE PROVIDED SEPTEL.  
WHILE TH U.S. AND EC PARTICIPATED IN BILATERAL EXAMINA-  
TION OF THIS TEXT WE MADE EXPLICIT THAT U.S. WOULD NOT  
COMMIT ITSELF TO ANY TEXT AT THIS TIME. TEXT WILL NOT  
BE DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER DELEGATIONS UNTIL U.S.-EC AGREE-  
MENT REACHED.

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2. MAJOR AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT ARE INDICATED BY BRACKETED LANGUAGE. U.S., AS INSTRUCTED, PRESSED FOR EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO JOINT MEETINGS TO WORK OUT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN VARIOUS GROUPS AS FIRST RESORT WITH FURTHER POSSIBILITY OF RAISING ISSUE TO TNC ONLY IF NO AGREEMENT ATTAINABLE IN JOINT MEETINGS. THIS REJECTED BY EC WHICH WOULD NOT ACCEPT ARTICULATION 'JOINT MEETING' CONCEPT AND WANTED TO FUZZ PROCEDURE BY SECOND BRACKETED ALTERNATIVE EXCLUDING WORD "JOINTLY."

3. U.S. INSISTED THAT WORK OF AGRICULTURE GROUP ON TARIFF FORMULAE SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO TARIFF GROUP TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN LATTER GROUPS' WORK OR INCORPORATED IN MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS BEING DEVELOPED THERE. EC ARGUED THAT THIS WAS COVERED BY RESTATEMENT OF PARA 2 OF MAY 8 COMPROMISE MTN/AG/1 AND THE "IN CONJUNCTION WITH" LANGUAGE AND THEREFORE REFUSED TO ACCEPT LANGUAGE ARTICULATING EITHER "INCORPORATION" OR "TAKE INTO ACCOUNT" CONCEPTS.

4. EC PROBLEM IN "TAKING INTO ACCOUNT" CONCEPT APPEARS TO BIND THEM TO SINGLE TARIFF FORMULA COVERING AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY. THEY DON'T FEEL THIS ISSUE CAN BE RESOLVED NOW AND ARGUE THAT TARIFF FORMULAE BEING DISCUSSED IN TARIFF GROUP DO NOT APPLY TO AGRICULTURE. NOTWITHSTANDING THIS WE BELIEVE LANGUAGE ON THIS POINT DESIRABLE. IN ADDITION U.S. WILLINGNESS TO DEFER EXAMINATION OF TARIFF FORMULAE IN AGRICULTURE GROUP UNTIL APPROPRIATE TIME WILL PICK UP SUPPORT FROM OTHER DELS.

5. AS FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH EC ON WORK PROGRAM FOR AGRICULTURE GROUP LIKELY TO FOCUS ON THIS TEXT RE AREAS OF STANDARDS, TARIFFS AND PROCEDURES FOR OTHER PRODUCTS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON COMMENTS ASAP. IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT SOME AGREEMENT ON QR'S WILL BE REACHED WHICH WILL BE REPORTED SEPTEMBER.

6. BEGIN TEXT THE GROUP AGREED THAT THE ADDITIONAL TOPICS FOR ITS WORK PROGRAM DESCRIBED BELOW WOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 2 OF MTN/AG/1.#

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"OTHER" PRODUCTS

THE GROUP AGREED THAT, FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS OTHER THAN THOSE COVERED BY THE SUB-GROUPS GRAINS, MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTS, IT WOULD TREAT ALL RELEVANT BARRIERS AFFECTING TRADE IN THOSE PRODUCTS AND COMMUNICATE THE RESULTS TO THE OTHER GROUPS.

IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHICH BARRIERS WILL BE COVERED THE GROUP SHOULD INITIALLY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ANY PROBLEMS AFFECTING THOSE PRODUCTS WHICH ARE NOTIFIED TO THE SECRETARIAT AS BEING OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO ONE OR MORE COUNTRIES AND OF DIRECT INTEREST FOR THEIR TRADE.

BASED ON COUNTRY NOTIFICATIONS AND OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION, THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD PREPARE RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION ON A PRODUCT BASIS SUMMARIZING ALL BARRIERS AFFECTING TRADE IN THOSE PRODUCTS. THIS DOCUMENTATION SHOULD BE EXAMINED BY THE GROUP IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY OF THE PRODUCTS LENDS ITSELF TO A MULTILATERAL SOLUTION. SHOULD THE GROUP FIND THAT THIS IS THE CASE, THE GROUP "AGRICULTURE" WOULD THEN DECIDE HOW WORK ON THIS PRODUCT SHOULD PROCEED. IN ANY VNT, APPROPRIATE ASPECTS OF ANY PROGRESS ON ANY MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS AS WELL AS ANY SOLUTIONS WOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO OTHER MTN GROUPS OR SUB-GROUPS ON A TIMELY AND CONTINUING BASIS.

ATTEMPTS WOULD BE MADE TO WORK OUT JOINTLY ANY INCONSISTENCES BETWEEN THE WORK OF THE VARIOUS GROUPS OR

WHENEVER IT APPEARED THERE ARE INCONSISTENCIES OR DIVERGENCIES BETWEEN SOLUTIONS AND APPROACHES ENUNCIATED BY THE VARIOUS GROUPS AN ATTEMPT WOULD BE MADE AS NEEDED AND IN THE MOST APPROPRIATE WAY TO WORK THEM OUT (JOINTLY), AND IF NECESSARY THE TNC MIGHT TAKE THE MATTER UP.

SHOULD THE GROUP DECIDE THAT A PROBLEM OR BARRIER AFFECTING AN INDIVIDUAL PRODUCT LENDS ITSELF TO A BILATERAL OR PLURILATERAL APPROACH, THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED MAY ENGAGE IN CONSULTATIONS, THE RESULTS OF WHICH WOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMUNICATED TO GROUP "AGRICULTURE" AND TO THE OTHER RELEVANT GROUPS OR SUB-GROUPS.

IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROCEDURE, THE GROUP WILL GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO THE TRADE BARRIERS NOTIFIED BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS A STEP TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION.

IN PARTICULAR, THE GROUP AGREED THAT IN PREPARING THIS DOCUMENTATION, THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD BEGIN WITH THOSE PRODUCTS IN WHICH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE INDICATED THEIR NEGOTIATING INTERESTS, WITH A VIEW TO ENABLING GROUP AGRICULTURE TO DECIDE QUICKLY WHETHER TO PROCEED VIA BILATERAL, PLURILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH RESPECT TO THESE PRODUCTS.

TARIFFS

THE GROUP NOTED THAT THE GROUP "TARIFFS" WAS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF EXAMINING VARIOUS FORMULAE FOR POSSIBLE USE AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION IN THAT GROUP. IT WAS AGREED THAT GROUP "AGRICULTURE" SHOULD, AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME, TREAT ALL PROPOSALS MADE IN RESPECT TO TARIFFS INCLUDING ALL OR SOME OF THE FORMULAE PRESENTED IN THE TARIFF GROUP. THE RESULTS OF THIS WORK SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO THE TARIFF GROUP WHICH WILL TAKE THEM INTO ACCOUNT IN ITS WORK OR FOR INCORPORATION INTO MULTILATERAL SOLUTION BEING DEVELOPED THERE.

TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

THE GROUP NOTED THAT THE GROUP "NON-TARIFF MEASURES" HAD ALREADY AGREED THAT THE APPLICABILITY OF THE GENERAL STANDARD RULES TO HEALTH AND SANITARY REGULATIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SHOULD BE EXAMINED BY THE GROUP "AGRICULTURE." GROUP "AGRICULTURE" AGREED TO UNDERTAKE THIS EXAMINATION AT ITS NEXT MEETING AND PROVIDE THE RESULTS OF ITS WORK AT THE SUB-GROUP ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE. IN ADDITION, THE GROUP AGREED THAT IT WOULD AT THE SAME TIME UNDERTAKE ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE AN EXAMINATION OF THE DRAFT STANDARDS CODE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH RESPECT TO OTHER AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS AND PROVIDE THE RESULTS OF ITS WORK TO THE SUB-GROUP ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS ON A TIMELY BASIS.

#IT WAS NOTED THAT MATTERS OF A GLOBAL NATURE, INCLUDING TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF MEASURES AFFECTING AGRICULTURE, WOULD BE TAKEN UP IN A NUMBER OF CONTEXTS WITHIN THE OVERALL FRAMEWORK OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS. IN SUCH CASES, THE GROUP AND ITS SUB-GROUPS WILL CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS OF THESE MATTERS AND WILL TREAT THEM IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WORK OF THE "TARIFFS" AND "NON-TARIFF MEASURES" GROUPS AND THE RESULTS OF THIS WORK WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO OTHER GROUPS CONCERNED WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT THE HARMONIOUS AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF ALL THE ELEMENTS SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION IN FURTHERANCE OF PARAGRAPH 8 OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION.

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